SAHARA

THE FLOWER SAMURAI

花侍のサハラ

芝田優作

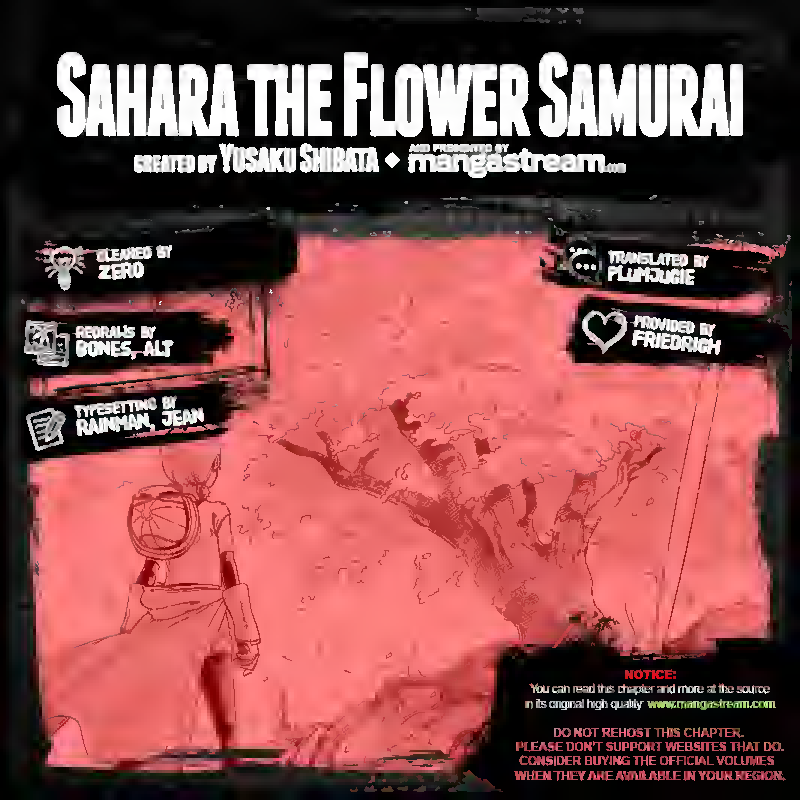
SHIBATA YUUSAKU

CHAPTER 3: THE COLOSSAL POD

MANGA STREAM

Sahara the Flower Samurai

Created by Yusaku Shibata ◆ And presented by mangastream.com



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PLEASE DON'T SUPPORT WEBSITES THAT DO.
CONSIDER BUYING THE OFFICIAL VOLUMES
WHEN THEY ARE AVAILABLE IN YOUR REGION.

AN ENCOUNTER AT THE VALLEY OF THE WORLD TREE! WHO COULD IT BE...?!
...WHERE DID YOU BOTH COME FROM?!
オオオオオオオ
MANGA STREAM
DID YOU NOT HEAR ME?
I'M ASKING YOU WHERE YOU CAME FROM!
...!
SPOKE?!
AN AUTOMATED WARRIOR...
HOW IS THIS POSSIB-...
TINK!
OH NO... ANOTHER ONE TOO?!
TINK! TINK! TINK!

DAMN LEFT-OVERS!
TSK...

WE'LL TALK SOON.
RIGHT NOW, FOLLOW ME.
WH...WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON?!
オオオオ
THEY'LL KEEP POPPING UP LIKE DAISIES IF WE STICK AROUND HERE.
RUSTLE RUSTLE RUSTLE...
MANGA STREAM
AND SHUT OFF THAT THING! IT'S JUST GONNA MAKE THINGS MORE COMPLICATED HERE.
TINK! TINK!
!
NO WORRIES! LET'S GO!
SAHARA...
SFX: TINK TINK TINK TINK TINK TINK
TTRRRRWWW...
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SAHARA... IS IT REALLY SAFE TO FOLLOW IT?
YEP! THIS WARRIOR ISN'T OUR ENEMY.
AND IT'S NOT "AUTOMATED" EITHER.
...!?
SPLASH!
!
THAT WAS...
SPLASH!
!
??
SO THIS IS HOW THEY'VE BEEN HIDING FROM THOSE OTHER WARRIORS.
A PROTECTIVE BARRIER MADE FROM THE POWER OF MAGIC STONES. AND A VERY SECURE ONE AT THAT.
EH?
MMM... I WOULDN'T NECESSARILY CALL MYSELF SMART, BUT...
SAHARA, I GUESS YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY SMART, AREN'T YOU?
I HAD A FEELING YOU WERE, BUT...
STEP
!?

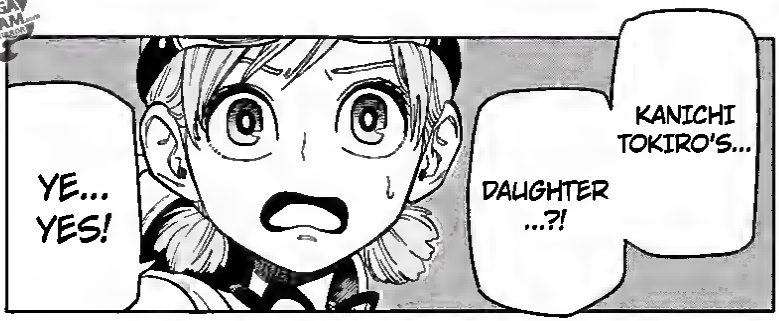
MANGA STREAM
KA-CHUNK!
MMMM, BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE HAD A SMOKE! REALLY HITS THE SPOT!
GOOD THING I WENT TO PICK 'EM UP!
NOW THEN,
LET ME ASK AGAIN, WHERE DID YOU TWO COME FROM?
A PERSON ...?!
THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL A "PILOTED WARRIOR."
THIS IS THE MAIN WEAPON THAT WAS USED BEFORE AUTOMATED WARRIORS WERE INVENTED.
I DIDN'T KNOW THESE THINGS STILL EXISTED!
YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?!
TATAP!
A LOOONG TIME AGO, SOME SAMURAI RAN FROM THE GREAT WAR, AND THEY ENDED UP GETTING LOST AND WANDERING INTO THIS VALLEY.
THEY TOSSED THEIR STEEDS, SO I TOOK 'EM AND FIXED 'EM UP. NOW I USE THEM.
WOW! YOU DID?!

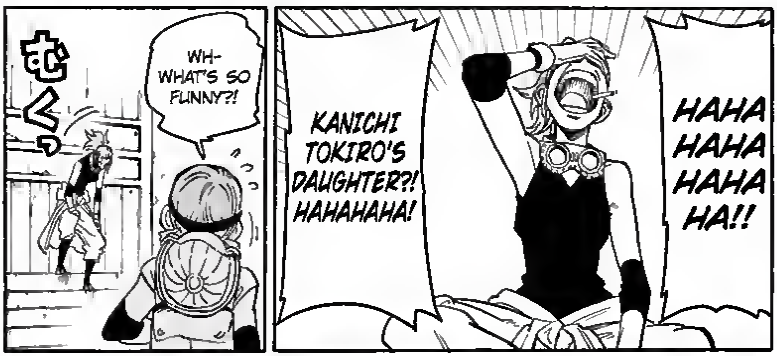
MANGA STREAM
MMM... THE REPAIR WORK IS IMPRESSIVE! REALLY WELL DONE!
YOU MUST BE VERY SKILLED.
HA!
I GUESS EVEN AMATEURS CAN TELL!
BUT SO CLOSE! THE STRUCTURE IS A BIT OFF.
!?
YOU SEE, THESE ARM JOINTS,
HAVE A MORE CONFINED RANGE OF MOBILITY THAN THE ORIGINAL VERSION.
ALSO, FOR THE AREAS THAT CONNECT THE HATCH,
JABBER
YOU HAVE TO ADD MORE COMPONENTS IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THE STRESS AND WEAR ON CERTAIN PARTS.
JABBER
?
OH!
JABBER
??
AND THE PULLEY FOR SWORD'S SCABBARD IS DAMAGED TOO!
JABBER
SO YEAH! FOR CRAFTSMANSHIP,
I GIVE IT A SOLID 68/100!
SHUT YER DAMN MOUTH!
ひぐっ!!

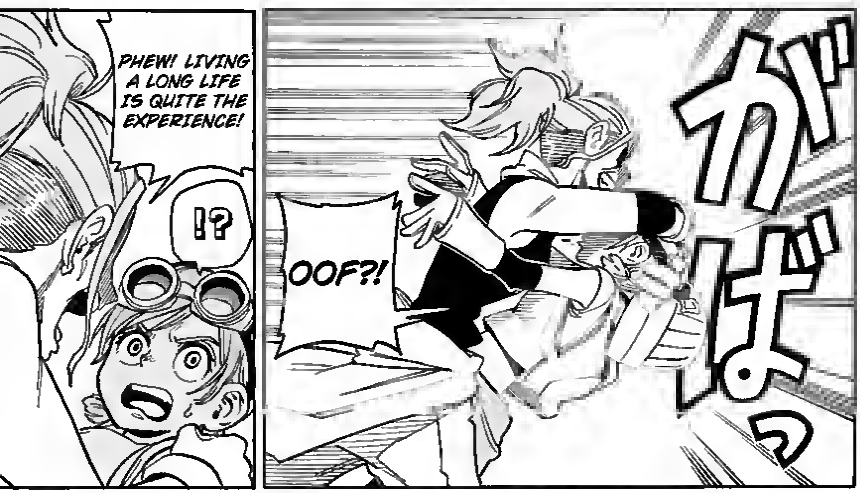
SHEESH, WHAT A RUDE KID!
BUT YES, ALL YOUR POINTS WERE RIGHT.
SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE QUITE WELL-INFORMED,
BUT YOU'RE NOT A SAMURAI, ARE YOU?
...!?
MANGA STREAM

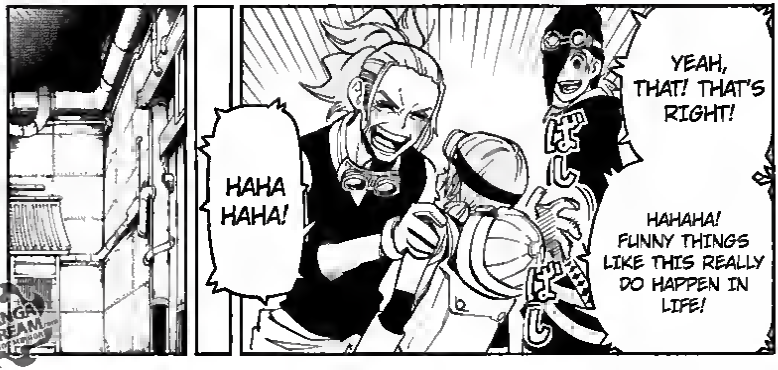
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?! SPILL IT, TELL US YOUR TRUE IDENTITY!
M-MY NAME IS YAE TOKIRO!
I'M THE DAUGHTER OF KANICHI TOKIRO!
ANYONE THAT MAKES IT TO THIS PLACE ISN'T LIKELY TO BE AN ORDINARY PERSON.
!?
WHAT?!

MANGA STREAM



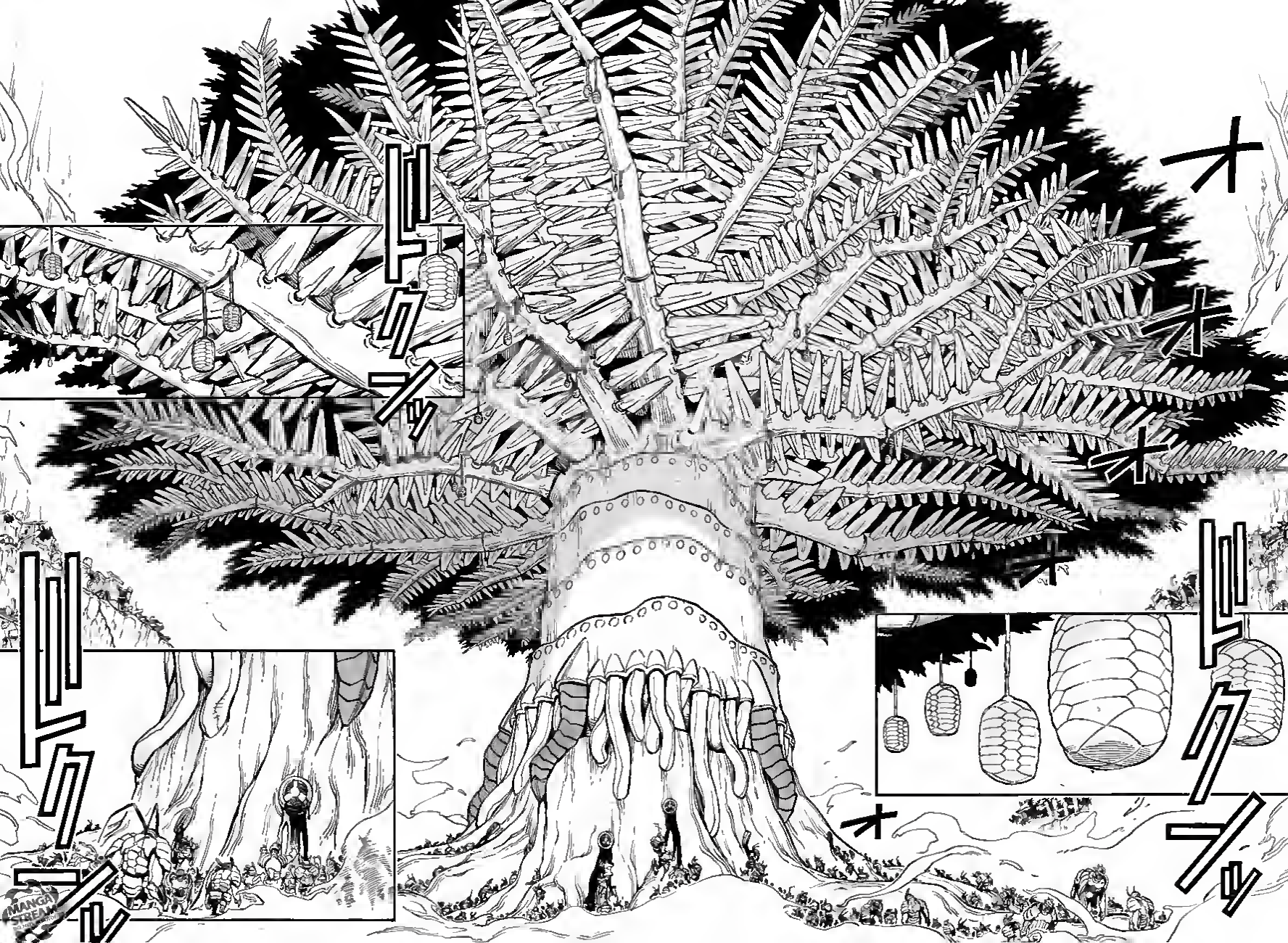






MANGA STREAM

BUT I GUESS I SHOULD GIVE HIM A PAT ON THE BACK FOR ACTUALLY COMING BACK TO VISIT ME.
.....
THAT IDIOT OF A SON...
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE LED HIS PRECIOUS DAUGHTER BACK OUT TO A PLACE LIKE THIS!
...BUT NAH. HE'S JUST A FLAT-OUT IDIOT.
OH... I GUESS I SHOULD EXPLAIN.
GR— GRANDMA, WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I WAS TOLD THAT THIS WAS A BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE BLESSED BY THE WORLD TREE...
IS THE CURRENT "VALLEY OF THE WORLD TREE."
THAT
GO LOOK OUTSIDE THROUGH THAT WINDOW.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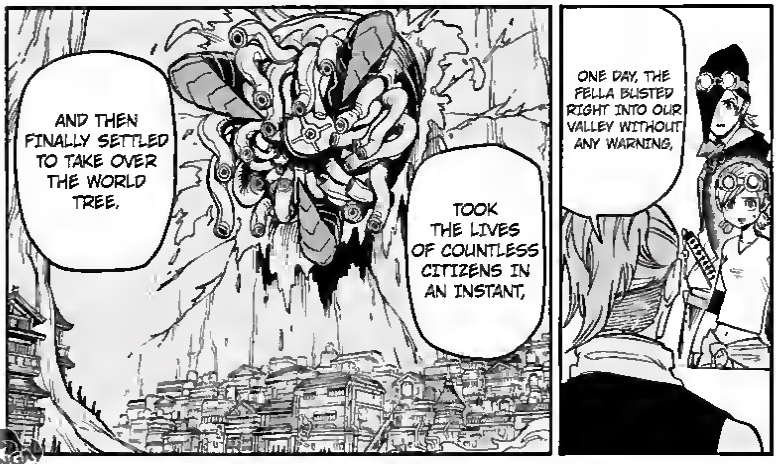
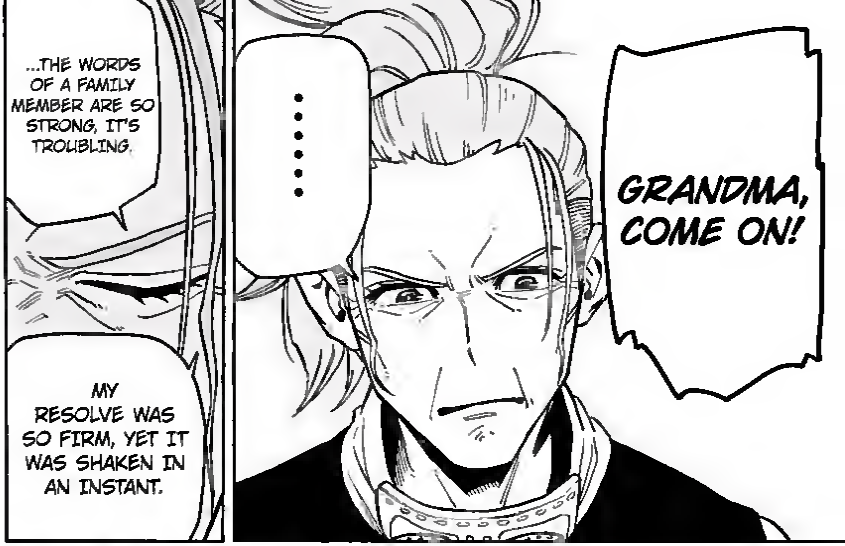

ONE DAY, THE FELLA BUSTED RIGHT INTO OUR VALLEY WITHOUT ANY WARNING,
TOOK THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS CITIZENS IN AN INSTANT,
AND THEN FINALLY SETTLED TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD TREE.

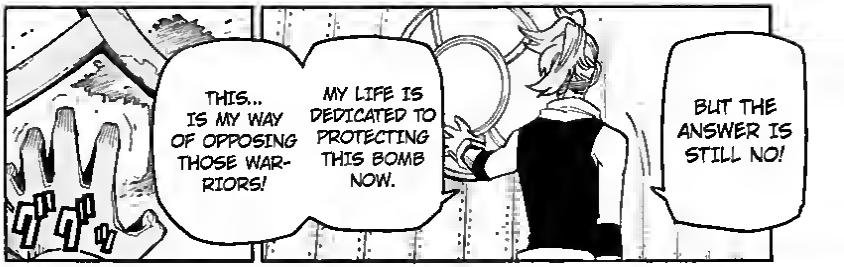
MANGA STREAM

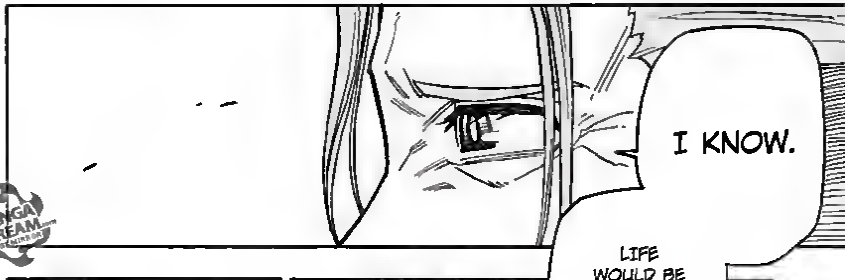
IT ABSORBS ALL THE ENERGY, THE MAGIC STONE FUEL, THAT THE WORLD TREE PULLS FROM THE EARTH,
FORCES THE AUTOMATED WARRIORS TO WORK FOR IT, THEN CONTINUES TO PRODUCE MORE WARRIORS FROM THE LEFTOVER MATERIALS THEY BRING BACK TO IT.
THAT'S WHAT THAT THING IS.
"THERE IS NO PEACE IN THE WORLD OUTSIDE OF THIS VALLEY. WE WILL LIVE IN THIS VALLEY UNTIL THE DAY WE DIE."
THIS WAS THE BELIEF OF THE ADULTS FROM KANICHI'S GENERATION. BUT HE ALWAYS ARGUED AGAINST IT.
HE WOULD SAY THAT HE COULDN'T EVEN FATHOM THE THOUGHT OF ALLOWING HIS LIFE TO END INSIDE A CLOSED OFF BOX OF A WORLD.
THAT THERE WAS NO WAY IT WAS FINE TO JUST LIVE LIFE AT THE SAME PACE FOREVER.
AND HE WAS EXACTLY RIGHT.
THERE WAS NO GUARANTEE THAT THIS VALLEY WOULD STAY THE SAME PEACEFUL VALLEY FOREVER.
AND THEN, HOW COME YOU'RE ALONE HERE?
WHERE DID ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE GO?!
EVERYONE GRABBED AHOLD OF ALL THE PILOTED WARRIORS THEY COULD FIND AND HIGH-TAILED IT OUT OF HERE.
I FIGURED THAT SINCE I HAD NO FAMILY AND HAVEN'T MUCH LONGER TO LIVE,
I'D DO WHATEVER I WANT AND CONTINUE MY JOB.
JOB?
YEP.

THE SAMURAI WHO FLED THE BATTLEFIELD,
MY DAD, LEFT BEHIND ONE MORE RELIC THAT HE BROUGHT TO THIS VALLEY.
AND MY JOB IS TO PRO-TECT THAT RELIC, AS IT'S SEALED AWAY IN THERE. IT'S CALLED A "MAGIC-FUELED EXPLOSIVE."
MAGIC-FUELED EXPLOSIVE ...
THAT'S RIGHT.
IT'S A TINY BALL WITH ENOUGH ENERGY TO FUEL A THOUSAND WARRIORS.
IF THE SEAL IS LIFTED, HALF THE VALLEY WILL BLOW TO SMITHEREENS IN LESS THAN 24 HOURS.
MY ORIGINAL DUTY WAS TO PREVENT IT FROM FALLING INTO THE WRONG HANDS, LIKE CRAZY PEOPLE.
BUT NOW I HAVE TO PROTECT IT FROM ALL THOSE AUTOMATED WARRIORS.
オオオオ

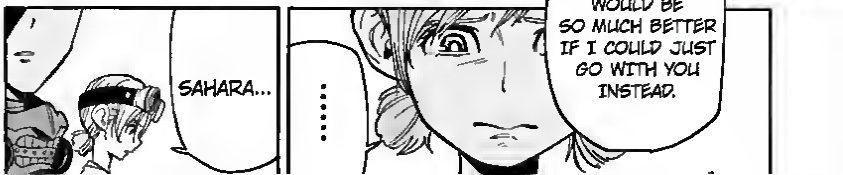
IF THOSE GUYS GET AHOLD OF IT, IT'LL BECOME A HUGE SOURCE FOR THEM.
SO THEN I THOUGHT MAYBE I SHOULD JUST BURST RIGHT INTO THEIR HQ CARRYING IT ALONG WITH ME...
BUT I FIGURED THAT THEY'D PROBABLY JUST SNATCH IT AWAY FROM MY ARMS BEFORE KILLING ME THE INSTANT I STEP INTO THEIR AREA.
SO IN THAT CASE, I SHOULD JUST FOCUS ON PROTECTING IT WITH ALL MY MIGHT!
I KNOW THERE'S NO POINT IN DOING THIS,
BUT I JUST WANT TO DIE IN THIS VALLEY, THE VALLEY I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN.
THAT'S A GOOD ENOUGH REASON, DON'TCHA THINK?
...STILL...
STAYING ALL ALONE, BY YOURSELF...
THAT'S JUST SO SAD!
COME LIVE WITH ME!
THERE IS HOPE EVEN OUTSIDE OF THIS VALLEY! AND DAD FOUND THAT HOPE!!


...THE WORDS OF A FAMILY MEMBER ARE SO STRONG, IT'S TROUBLING.
MY RESOLVE WAS SO FIRM, YET IT WAS SHAKEN IN AN INSTANT.
.....
GRANDMA, COME ON!





MANGA STREAM



YOU PROTECTED MY FLOWER ALL THE WAY HERE,
AND NOW OUR CONTRACT IS FINISHED.
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW...?
SAHARA, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
I...
.....
WHY DID YOU COME TO THIS VALLEY?
...SAHARA
SANJURO?!
THE SWORD OF VEGETATION .. "SAHARA"...
!
SAHARA?
.....!
I'VE HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE.

!?
WHAT?!

MANGA STREAM
DAMN IT! WHEN DID IT FIND A CHANCE TO SNEAK IN?!
A MINIATURE A.W. IS PARA-SITIZING IT!
LOOK AT THE COCK-PIT!
WHAT'S GOING ON?! IT'S MOVING ON ITS O-...
!!

MANGA STREAM

SAHARA!
BOTH OF YOU STAND BACK...
AHH-CHOO!
AH-CHOO!

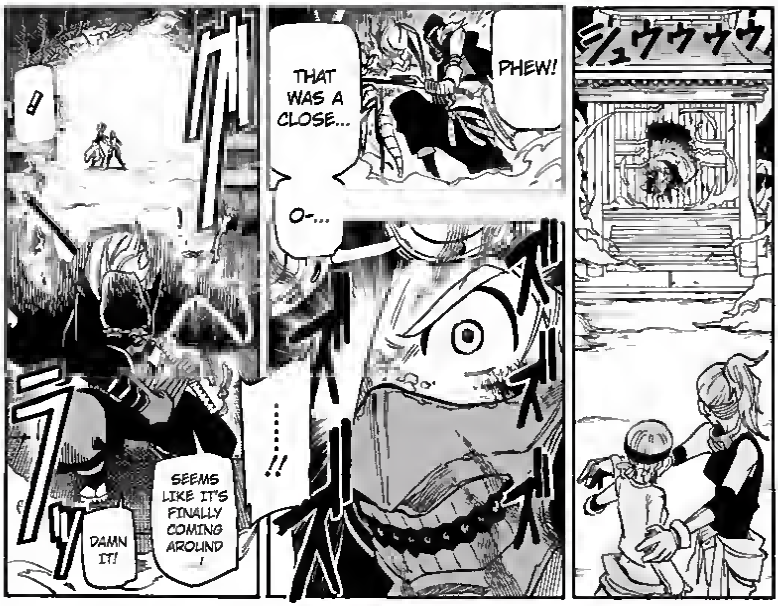
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DAMAGE YOUR PRECIOUS ARMOR A BIT!
MISS KAE, SORRY BUT,

メキメキ
ドッ
THUNK!
メキ
メキ
メキ
メキ
THUNK!
JUST GIVE UP ALREADY!
KA-CHINK!
!?

...TCH
SHOOT!
!
THE SEALING TEMPLE!!
BANG!
!?

SO THAT WAS ITS REAL AIM?!
!!?
IT CAN'T BE!
IS IT TRYING TO BLOW IT UP?!

MANGA STREAM



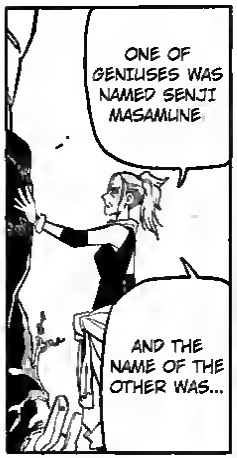
MANGA STREAM

FLOWER PETALS...?
THE FLOWER SAMURAI OF THE FLOWER SWORD!
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A MYTH...
GRANDMA, YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?!
YES...
YAE! LET'S CARRY HIM TO A BED!
...OKAY!
NOW WHAT?
LET'S TAKE CARE OF HIS WOUNDS FIR-...
!
HIS WOUND...
SIP...
IT'S HEALING!
INCRED-IBLE.
IT'S JUST LIKE THE STORIES I'VE HEARD
MANGA STREAM

I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM MY FATHER WHO LIVED THROUGH THE GREAT WAR.
THIS STORY...
WHAT'S THE STORY? WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
OH, COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU KNEW SAHARA'S NAME WITHOUT HAVING ASKED, RIGHT?
IT'S A STORY FROM LONG, LONG AGO...
FIRST, THEY DISCOVERED A NEW FORM OF ENERGY DERIVED FROM THE EARTH, "MAGIC STONE FUEL."
EVERYTHING STARTED WITH THE APPEARANCE OF TWO GENIUSES.
THEY EVEN BEGAN MANUFACTURING THINGS LIKE FULLY AUTOMATED ARMOR CALLED "AUTOMATED WARRIORS."
THIS LED TO THEIR INVENTION OF AIRSHIPS, AND EVENTUALLY...

AND THE THE FIGHT ESCALATED INTO A GREAT WAR.
EVENTUALLY, ONE SIDE WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE AUTOMATED WARRIORS.
HOWEVER, COUNTRIES BEGAN TO ARGUE WITH EACH OTHER IN THE FIGHT TO OBTAIN THE PAIR OF BRILLIANT MINDS.
MANGA STREAM
THAT PERSON WAS THE "FLOWER SAMURAI" OF THE "FLOWER SWORD." IT IS SAID THAT HE POSSESSED INHUMAN BATTLE PROWESS AND VITALITY, AND SO HE BROUGHT DOWN ARMORED WARRIORS ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
IN THE FINAL STAGES OF THE WAR, A CERTAIN SAMURAI APPEARED. HE UTILIZED THE POWER OF PLANTS TO DEFEAT THE ARMORED WARRIORS AND OPPOSE THE ENEMY NATION.
ALTHOUGH THE SAMURAI TRIUMPHED OVER HUNDREDS OF WARRIORS,
BY THE END, HE HAD COMPLETELY USED UP ALL OF HIS POWER,
YES, BUT THIS STORY HAS A CONTINUATION.
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT SAHARA IS THAT SAMURAI?
BUT THE GREAT WAR HAPPENED 108 YEARS AGO!

AND HIS BODY TRANSFORMED INTO FLOWER PETALS, SCATTERED IN THE WIND.
HNG...
NO WAY... THEN SAHARA'S GOING TO...
...!?
AND IT'S NO WONDER I DID.
LIKE I HAD SEEN IT SOMEWHERE BEFORE.
I THOUGHT THE NAME "SAHARA" LOOKED FAMILIAR,
SAHARA!
MISS YAE, DID YOU CALL?



T/N: SAHARA HEAVY INDUSTRIES

MANGA STREAM

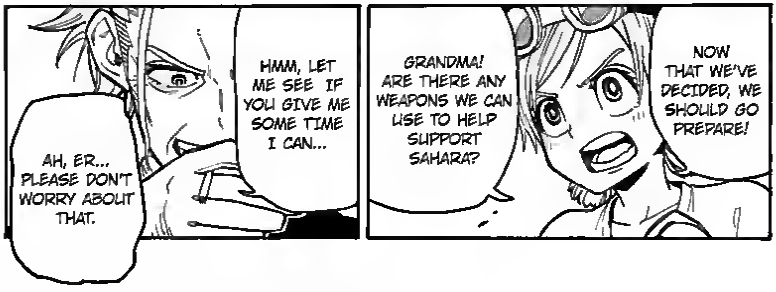
MANGA STREAM
ARE YOU THAT PERSON?
ARE YOU SANJURO SAHARA?
WHAT...?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
BECAUSE NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...
WAIT, WHAT?! SAHARA, HOW OLD ARE YOU?!
AHAA, WELL NOW, NEVER THOUGHT THERE'D STILL BE PEOPLE WHO KNEW ABOUT ME!
I WONDER JUST HOW OLD I AM? I STOPPED COUNTING...
WELL, I GUESS I'M AT LEAST OVER 100.
HAHA!
WHY DID YOU COME TO THIS VALLEY?
INSIDE HERE IS A "SEED" THAT WAS ENTRUSTED TO ME BY A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A PIECE OF LAND THAT THIS SEED CAN GROW IN—
NO, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A PLACE THAT CAN BECOME THE FOUNDATION FOR THE WORLD TO RETURN BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL STATE.
BUT I HAVEN'T FOUND
A LAND LIKE THAT ANYWHERE.

I'VE BEEN TRAVELING FOR 108 YEARS, AND I HAVEN'T FOUND A LAND MORE BLESSED THAN THIS ONE!
THE WORLD TREE IS STILL ALIVE! AND I'M CERTAIN THAT IT CAN BECOME THE FOUNDATION FOR THE BIRTH OF A NEW WORLD!
THAT'S WHY—
UNTIL TODAY!
WE'RE GOING TO TAKE IT BACK.
!
THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY, RIGHT?
NICE! THIS IS GREAT! THINGS ARE HEATING UP! WHAT FUN!
YUP!

JUDGING BY THE EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE, SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE A PLAN, EY?
LET ME IN ON IT.
IF I DRIVE THIS SWORD STRAIGHT INTO HIS CORE,
I CAN REVIVE THE GREEN IN BOTH THAT GIANT ARMOR AND THE WORLD TREE ALL AT ONCE.
BUT BEFORE THAT, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THAT GIANT ARMY?
YOU'RE STRONG, BUT THERE'S A LIMIT TO WHAT YOU CAN DO ON YOUR OWN.
YES... SO I WAS GOING TO ASK,
WOULD YOU PLEASE LET ME USE THAT?
THAT?
!
YOU MEAN THE "MAGIC-FUELED EXPLOSIVE?!"

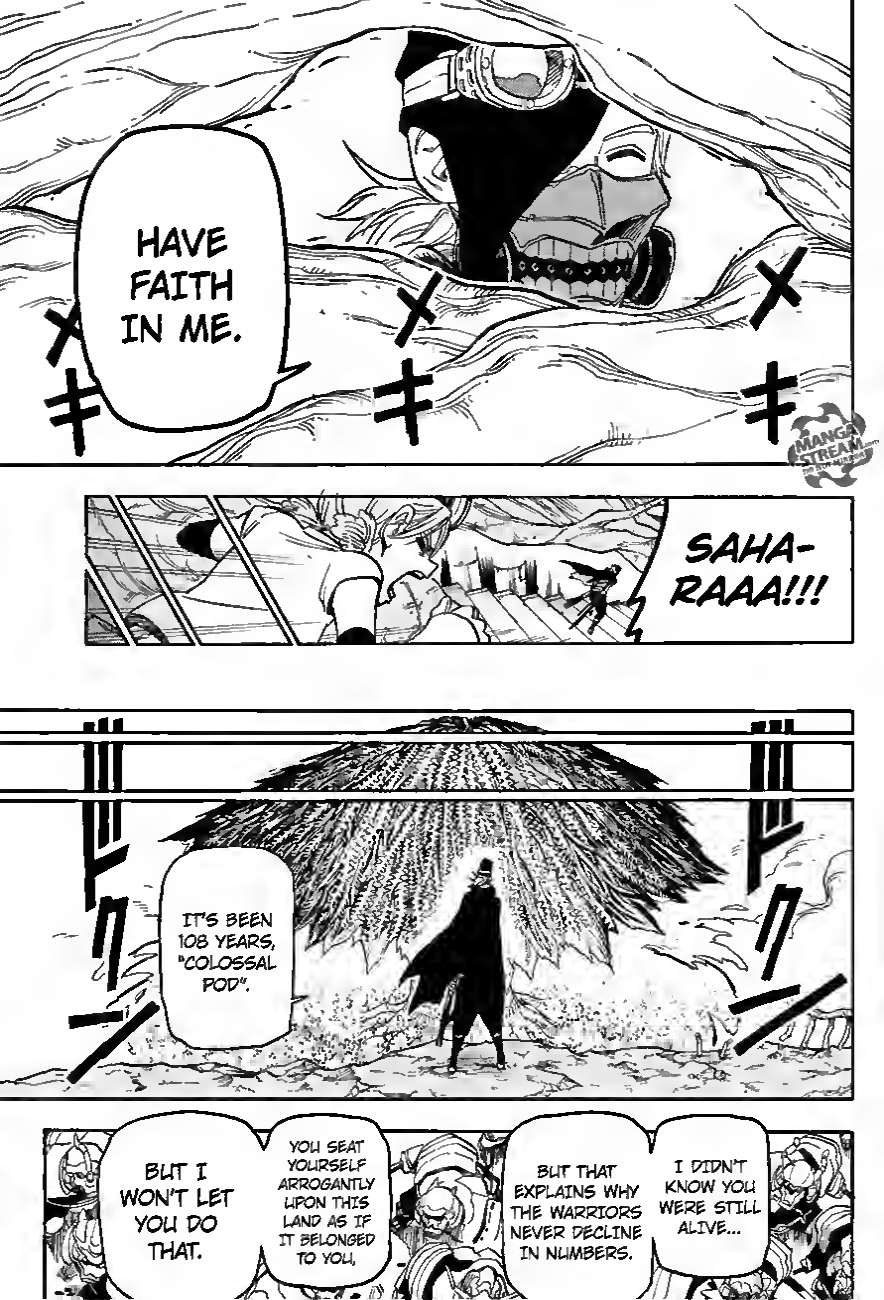
THOSE GUYS ARE SERIOUSLY GOING TO REGRET
NOT BEING ABLE TO STEAL THAT THING UP UNTIL NOW!
I KNOW THERE'S NO POINT IN DOING THIS, BUT...

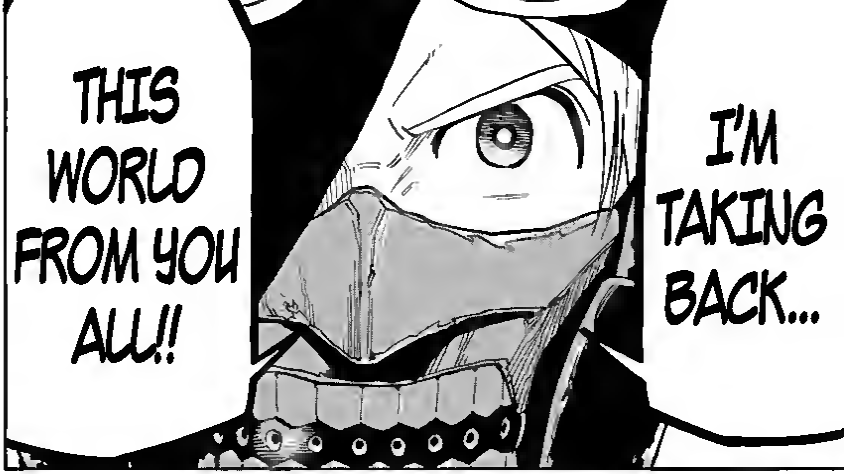
WHOOPS! I GUESS YOU'RE OLDER THAN ME!
HAHA HAHA!
バシバシ
HAHA HAHA! YOU'RE JUST FULL OF THRILLS, AREN'T YA, KID?!


AH, ER... PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.
HMM, LET ME SEE IF YOU GIVE ME SOME TIME I CAN...
GRANDMA! ARE THERE ANY WEAPONS WE CAN USE TO HELP SUPPORT SAHARA?
NOW THAT WE'VE DECIDED, WE SHOULD GO PREPARE!

YOU TWO FINALLY REUNITED AS A FAMILY!
SO YOU MUST STILL HAVE THINGS YOU WANT TO TAKE YOUR TIME AND TALK ABOUT, RIGHT?
GA-CONK!
HUH?
BESIDES...
千+千...
SWISH
WHAT'S UP? BRINGING THAT UP ALL OF A SUDDEN...?
IN OTHER WORDS, PEOPLE... LIKE ME.
SHOULD BE THE ONES TO STAND ON THE BATTLEFIELD.
PEOPLE WITHOUT FAMILY

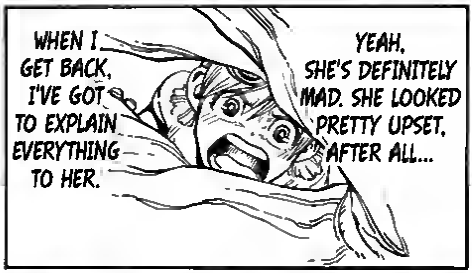
MANGA STREAM
メキメキ
メキメキ
メキメキ
THUMP!
THUNK!
THUMP!
!!?
WHAT ARE YOU ...!!
I WON'T LET ANYONE ELSE
GET CAUGHT UP IN THIS FIGHT.
I'LL BE BACK...
AS SOON AS I FINISH GO MAKING SOME FLOWERS.
NO...!

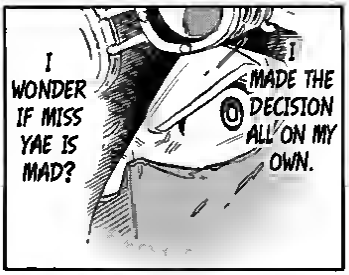

HAVE FAITH IN ME.
メキ
メキ
メキ
SAHA-RAAA!!!
ドクーン
IT'S BEEN 108 YEARS, "COLOSSAL POD".
ドクーン
BUT I WON'T LET YOU DO THAT.
YOU SEAT YOURSELF ARROGANTLY UPON THIS LAND AS IF IT BELONGED TO YOU,
BUT THAT EXPLAINS WHY THE WARRIORS NEVER DECLINE IN NUMBERS.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE STILL ALIVE...


THIS WORLD FROM YOU ALL!!
I'M TAKING BACK...

I HAVE TO USE IT AT THE BASE OF THE WORLD TREE, AT THE HEART OF THE ARMY.
IN ORDER TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS BLAST HITS ALL OF THEM.

!
KUH!
I GET IT.
LET'S SEE WHO WINS THIS TEST OF ENDURANCE!
BUT OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T LET ME THROUGH SO EASILY!


WHEN I GET BACK, I'VE GOT TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO HER.
YEAH, SHE'S DEFINITELY MAD. SHE LOOKED PRETTY UPSET, AFTER ALL...


I WONDER IF MISS YAE IS MAD?
I MADE THE DECISION ALL ON MY OWN.

HOW DO I EVEN TELL IT TO HER IN THE FIRST PLACE?
EXPLAIN? I DON'T KNOW HOW WELL I CAN EXPLAIN THIS STUFF TO HER...

ANYWAY. FIRST I SHOULD APOLOGIZE, AND GET READY FOR A KNOCK ON THE HEAD.
NO, IT WON'T WORK. I SHOULD GIVE UP ON EXPLAINING.
THERE THEY ARE...
THE SPAWNING PODS!!
!
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ボタ
レクーン

SHOOT! WHO COULD'VE KNOWN THERE WAS A SELF-DESTRUCTIVE TYPE IN THERE!
PLEASE, HOLD OUT FOR ME!
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH THAT ARMY AGAIN!
THE BOMB IS STILL ALRIGHT,

SHOO-!
ガッ
ガッ
BRACE YOUR-SELF...
SAHA-RAAA!!
!?

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クン
THE COLOSSAL POD MOVES?!
SANJURO...?
SAHARA...
SAHARA THE FLOWER SAMURAI —END
NEXT TIME: EXPECT CLOSURE ON SAHARA'S MISSION AND THE FATE OF THEIR WORLD
I'M GOING TO PROTECT YOU!
THEN YOU SHOULD ALSO HAVE FAITH IN THEM TOO! STUPID SAHARA!!
MISS YAE?! BUT WHY?!
IF YOU ASK SOMEONE TO HAVE FAITH IN YOU,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHY?" IT'S OBVIOUS...